

Arrogance Has Ballooned DAP's Oversized Ego
MalaysianMirror.com
2 June 2012
By Lau Chiek Tuan

If shutting off access for Utusan Malaysia and New Straits Times journalists to cover the Penang Island Municipal Council (MPPP) and Northeast District Health office enforcement officers' operation on a restaurant in Batu Feringhi and subsequent order that they leave the press conference is not disgraceful enough, DAP stoops many degrees lower when its councillor Ong Ah Teong had rebuffed the handshake greetings by the NST journalist.

In any culture, be it eastern or western, shaking hands is always a positive sign of endearment, respect, acknowledgment.

Refusing a handshake is outright rude, uncouth and worse still, smacks of condescension against the person who had humbly offered his or her palm and fingers to clasp another's.

If an individual having an attitude problem refusing a handshake is insulting enough, it is even worse if this handshake snub arises from interpretation of a formal pekeliling (circular) as evidenced with Ong's excuse that "Sorry, I cannot entertain reporter from NST or Utusan ... it is in the pekeliling."

DAP simply can't accept public feedback

Not only does DAP not practice freedom of media, but they have taken it personally whereby their aides are now even refusing to be associated with journalists who are merely doing their job, and whose only fault was that the news reported in those newspapers had appeared unfavourable to DAP.

DAP will do well to remember that there are two sides to every story, and what may seem unfavourable to them may seem right to others. Besides that, journalists are also supposed to report what they understand, and if there is any miscomprehension, then DAP councilors or leaders should take the time to explain the situation clearly. Spurning a handshake will not help DAP improve ties with the media, and as such they cannot be blame for not reporting favourable news about DAP and Pakatan.

LAU CHIEK TUAN is MCA Penang Secretary

(The views expressed above belongs to the author in its entirety and does not represent the opinion of Malaysian Mirror in any way)

Copyright © 2012 www.malaysianmirror.com
<http://www.malaysianmirror.com/media-buzz-detail/6-nation/57879>